# Fernald Environmental Management Project P. O. Box 538704

# Cincinnati, Ohio 45253-8704

FEMP Web site: http://www.fernald.gov

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 23, 1997

### **NEWS MEDIA CONTACTS:**

Tricia Thompson
Fluor Daniel Fernald Public Affairs Director
513-648-4068
tricia\_thompson@fernald.gov

Kathy Graham
Fluor Daniel Fernald Public Affairs
513-648-4072
kathy\_graham@fernald.gov

## HEIMLICH MANEUVER INVENTOR RECOGNIZES FERNALD EMPLOYEE

**CINCINNATI, Oct. 23, 1997 --** Dr. Henry Heimlich, president of the Heimlich Institute, Cincinnati, Ohio, and best known physician of the twentieth century, will be visiting the Fernald site on Oct. 28 to present Fluor Daniel Fernald employee Jim Conner with an award from the Heimlich Institute for his life-saving efforts. Dr. Heimlich is best known for his Heimlich Maneuver, which saves choking victims by dislodging objects from the windpipe, and resuscitates drowning victims by expelling water from the lungs.

In August, Nancy VanCleave, Conners' co-worker, was eating lunch in the cafeteria at Fernald when she began to choke. Conner determined she was choking and then performed the Heimlich maneuver.

"I had to ask her if she was, in fact, choking, because it could have been something other than an airway obstruction," Conner said. "It could have been a heart attack, and you do not want to do the Heimlich Maneuver on a heart attack victim."

"I was very reassured when I saw Jim," VanCleave recalled. VanCleave was taken to the site medical facility and returned to work later that day.

Conner, a member of Fernald's Emergency Response Team, had never performed the Heimlich maneuver.

"You often wonder how you'll react," he said. "It happened so quickly that I didn't have time to think. I just reacted and knew exactly what to do because of my training. I think everyone should learn CPR and the Heimlich Maneuver."

John Bradburne, president of Fluor Daniel Fernald, recently presented Conner with Fluor Daniel's prestigious Silver Safety Cross Award for his life-saving efforts. This is the first time a Fluor Daniel Fernald employee had received this award, which is given to those whose actions save lives.

On Oct. 28, Dr. Heimlich will recognize Conner during a reception at the Fernald

site from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. A brief photo session will be held at approximately 9:55 a.m.

Fernald employees will have the opportunity to attend the reception and meet Dr. Heimlich, who is currently researching cures for cancer and AIDS, and is serving as the head of "A Caring World," a program that promotes universal peace and health.